IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A banknote condition detection device for a banknote storing unit, comprising:

a banknote storing unit for being removably positioned within a banknote receiving unit, the banknote storing unit receives a banknote from the banknote receiving unit, the received banknote being ~~moved~~ pushed by a pusher of a moving unit within the banknote storing unit for storing the received banknote within the storing unit;

a plurality of optical guide units having a light projecting surface and a left receiving surface, ~~a portion~~ the light projection surface and the light receiving surface of each optical guide unit being positioned at a surface of the banknote storing unit adjacent the banknote receiving unit; and

a plurality of optical emitter-receiver pair units disposed within the banknote receiving unit and operatively associated with the plurality of optical guide units, each optical emitter-receiver pair unit includes a light emitting element and a light receiving element being disposed to send light to and receive light from a predetermined optical guide unit in the banknote storing unit.

2. (Original) The banknote condition detection device of Claim 1, each optical guide unit further comprising:

a detecting projecting surface disposed adjacent to a receiver section of a corresponding optical emitter-receiver pair unit for sending light to the receiver section of the emitter-receiver pair unit; and

a detecting receiving surface disposed adjacent to an emitter section of the corresponding optical emitter-receiver pair unit for receiving light from the emitter section of the emitter-receiver pair unit.

3. (Currently Amended) The banknote condition detection device of Claim 1,

wherein a predetermined optical guide unit and a predetermined optical emitter-receiver pair unit comprise a position detecting unit including a position detecting optical guide unit and a position detecting emitter-receiver pair unit, the position detecting unit further comprising:

a detecting projecting surface on the position detecting optical guide unit for emitting a light beam received from an emitter section of the position detecting emitter-receiver pair unit; and

a reflector member for reflecting the light beam from the detecting projecting surface ~~member~~, the reflector member being disposed adjacent to a banknote moving passageway opposite from the position detecting optical guide unit.

4.-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The banknote condition detection device of Claim 2,

wherein a predetermined optical guide unit and a predetermined optical emitter-receiver pair unit comprise a storing amount detecting unit including a storing amount optical guide unit and a storing amount emitter-receiver pair unit, the storing amount optical guide unit further comprising:

a detecting projecting surface; and

a detecting receiving surface for facing the detecting projecting surface ~~in the~~ whereby a full amount position of the stored banknotes in the storing unit can be determined when light is blocked between the detecting projecting surface and the detecting viewing surface.

7. (Original) The banknote condition detection device of Claim 1,

wherein the plurality of optical guide units include an optical resin.

8. (Original) The banknote condition detection device of Claim 7,

wherein the optical resin is an acrylate resin.

9. (Currently Amended) The banknote condition detection device of Claim 2,

wherein the optical guide unit includes a first column and a second column, a first end of the first column includes a first reflecting surface, a first end of the second column includes a second reflecting surface, the first reflecting surface facing the second reflecting surface,

wherein a side surface of the first column includes the detecting projecting ~~section~~ surface while a side surface of the second column includes the detecting receiving ~~section~~ surface,

wherein the optical guide unit includes a light receiving surface on the second end of the first column on the end of the first column opposite to the first reflecting surface of the first column, the optical guide unit includes a light projecting surface on the second end of the second column on the end of the second column opposite to the second reflecting surface of the second column.

10. (Currently Amended) The banknote condition detection device of Claim 1,

wherein for each of the optical guiding units, the receiving surface and the projecting surface is flush with the surface of the storing unit.

11. (Currently Amended) The banknote condition detection device of Claim 1, each optical emitter-receiver pair unit further comprising:

wherein the emitter ~~section~~ of the emitter-receiver pair units further comprises:

~~a light emitting element for emitting light;~~

a first cylinder having a first end and a second end, the first end of the first cylinder for retaining the light emitting element so that the light emitting element projects light into the first cylinder from the first end to the second end, and

wherein the receiver ~~section~~ of the emitter-receiver pair units further comprises:

~~a light detecting element for detecting light;~~

a second cylinder having a first end and a second end, the first end of the second cylinder for retaining the light detecting element so that the light detecting element detects a portion of light admitted into the second cylinder from the second end to the first end.

12. (Currently Amended) The banknote condition detection device of Claim [[11]] 9,

wherein the second end of the first column is disposed adjacent to the receiving surface of the corresponding optical guide unit, and

wherein the second end of the second column is disposed adjacent to the projecting surface of the corresponding optical guide unit.

13. (Currently Amended) An optical detecting system for optically detecting conditions within a banknote storing unit removably inserted into a banknote receiving unit, comprising:

a banknote receiving unit having a plurality of electrically activated optical emitter-receiver pair units for emitting and receiving light; and

a banknote storing unit for being removably positioned within the banknote receiving unit, the banknote storing unit having a plurality of passive optical guide units for receiving, reflecting, and projecting the received light from the plurality of optical emitter-receiver pair units, the plurality of emitter-receiver pair units being aligned with the plurality of optical guiding units when the banknote storing unit is positioned within the banknote receiving unit, the presence or absence of light being reflected from a predetermined optical guide unit indicating a predetermined condition.

14. (Original) A optical detecting system for optically detecting conditions within an enclosed unit inserted into receiving unit, comprising:

a receiving unit having a plurality of optical emitter-receiver pair units for emitting and receiving light; and

an enclosed unit for being removably inserted into the receiving unit, the enclosed unit having a plurality of optical guide units for receiving, reflecting, and projecting light from the plurality of optical emitter-receiver pair units, the plurality of emitter-receiver pair units being aligned with the plurality of optical guiding units when the enclosed unit is inserted within the receiving unit, the presence or absence of light being reflected from a predetermined optical guide unit indicating a predetermined condition.

15.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) A optical detecting method for optically detecting conditions within an enclosed unit inserted into receiving unit, comprising:

transmitting a beam of light from a receiving unit towards an enclosed unit to produce a transmitted beam of light;

receiving the transmitted beam of light within the enclosed unit to produce a received beam of light;

reflecting the received light beam to produce a reflected beam of light;

projecting the reflected light beam out of the enclosed unit towards the receiving unit to produce a projected beam of light; and

detecting the projected beam of light to indicate a predetermined condition.

18. (Original) The optical detecting method of Claim 17,

wherein detecting the projected beam of light indicates a true condition.

19. (Currently Amended) The optical detecting method of Claim 17, further comprising:

interrupting ~~one of~~ the transmitted beam of light and the projected beam of light to indicate the condition that an object is disposed between the enclosed unit and the receiving unit.

20. (Original) The optical detecting method of Claim 17, further comprising:

interrupting the reflected light beam of light to indicate the condition that an object is disposed at a predetermined position within the enclosed unit.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A banknote position detecting device for a banknote handling apparatus wherein a banknote translates to various locations in the banknote handling apparatus and is stored in a banknote storing unit comprising[[;]] :

a projecting and receiving unit including a light emitting element and photo-detection element including a light projecting section and a light receiving section positioned adjacent to each other on the banknote handling apparatus; and

an optical guide assembly operatively positioned opposite to the light emitting element and the photo-detection element to receive light from the projecting and receiving unit and to transmit the received light back to the light receiving section whereby the return of the light indicates a first condition and the absence of the return of light indicates a second condition for the banknote position detecting device.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) The banknote position detecting device of Claim [[23]] 22 wherein the projecting and receiving unit includes a pair of cylinders, a first cylinder mounting at one end of the light emitting element and a second cylinder mounting at one end of the photo-detection element.

25. (Currently Amended) The banknote position detecting device of Claim 24 wherein the optical guide assembly includes a first reflecting surface and a second reflecting surface offset from each other and respectively aligned with the light projecting section and the light receiving section of the projecting and receiving unit.

26. (Currently Amended) The banknote position detecting device of Claim 25 wherein a unitary reflecting light transmitting ~~member with a plurality of planar facets~~ provides the first reflecting surface ~~as one facet~~ and the second reflecting surface ~~on another facet~~ is mounted on a surface of the banknote storing unit.

27. (Previously Presented) The banknote position detecting device of Claim 26 wherein the optical guide assembly further includes an optical emitting and receiving guide position between the projecting and receiving unit and the reflecting light transmitting member.

28. (Currently Amended) The banknote position detecting device of Claim 26 where the reflecting light transmitting member is a solid plastic ~~trapezoid~~ optical guide with the first and second reflecting surfaces formed internally on walls of the optical guide.

29. (Previously Presented) The banknote position detecting device of Claim 24 wherein the first and second cylinders are integral as one piece.